



November 22, 2017

NABR Wishes You a Happy Thanksgiving

This Thanksgiving, the NABR staff is thankful for the thousands of researchers and support staff who work tirelessly to help find cures and treatments that benefit us all. Thanks to your work, people across the country and globe can live longer, happier, and healthier lives. Thank you for everything that you do. Have a very happy Thanksgiving!

-Matt, Mike, Molly, Taylor, and Barbara

Yale Postdoc Publicly Defends Research with Birds

Christine Lattin, a postdoctoral fellow at Yale University, has been a target of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) for the past several months because of her research with wild house sparrows. In her experiments, Lattin hopes to learn about how the birds adapt to stressful environments. Since May, the animal rights group has picketed outside of her laboratory, interrupted presentations by her and other Yale employees, and even showed up at Lattin's home. However, Lattin has received immense support from the research community. On multiple occasions, she has stood up to defend her important work. [In a recent article](#) published in the *New Haven Register*, Lattin explains the importance of her research, noting, "Nothing that I do is secret. There's a ton of oversight...I'm really proud of my research. I think it's important to be open and clear about my research."

She further stated: "It's very frustrating to me to see claims that are demonstrably false, claims that show a clear misunderstanding of how biology works. We only use animals for research when there are no cell culture or tissue culture or computer modeling alternatives. These hormone systems and neurotransmitter systems act in very similar ways across different groups of animals and in humans."

To read the full article in the *New Haven Register*, [please click here](#). We also encourage you to [post a comment in support](#) of Lattin's research in the comments section at the end of the article.

PETA Submits Shareholder Resolution to Eli Lilly

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), after purchasing stock in Eli Lilly, [announced in a press release](#) this week that it has submitted a shareholder resolution urging the company to “enforce its published animal-welfare policy and ensure that its hired laboratories aren’t abusing animals.” The announcement comes shortly after a PETA infiltrator targeted and filmed one of Eli Lilly’s contract laboratories. [In the press release](#), PETA also referenced Covance and Professional Laboratory and Research Services. The press release follows a letter sent to the company from PETA attorney Jared Goodman. If your company has received a similar letter, please let NABR know at info@nabr.org.

Mizzou Responds to PCRM Effort to End Use of Live Pigs in Medical Training

Despite protests by The Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine (PCRM), an animal rights group, The University of Missouri [has stated](#) it will continue to use live pigs in training exercises for emergency room doctors through November 2020. The decision was made at a recent meeting with the university’s Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC).

University spokeswoman Jennifer Coffman [told the Associated Press](#): “Our goal at the University of Missouri is to provide our emergency medicine resident physicians the skills and procedural knowledge necessary to save the lives of our patients.” She explained stimulations are not yet adequate for this purpose.

[Click here](#) to read more in the *Associated Press*.